

# Reaching Everybody! Newsleaders

Friday, Sept. 3, 2021  
Volume 26, Issue 18  
Est. 1995

## Town Crier

### Farmers' Market open Labor Day

The Sartell Farmers Market is open through early October each Monday, from 3-6 p.m., including Labor Day in Bernick's Parking Lot, 1109 First St. S. Come find all the great locally grown or produced food and goodies. Some of the great things you will find is: meat, eggs, corn, tomatoes, beans, cucumbers, caramel corn, honey, baked goods, canned goods, coffee and many more great items.

### Days of Caring set Sept. 20-24

United Way of Central Minnesota will host Days of Caring Sept. 20-24. Days of Caring brings people together to volunteer on community projects to increase awareness to the needs of our community. Volunteers get a free T-shirt. This is a great opportunity to spend time with co-workers, friends, family and service groups for our community. Projects include painting, packaging food, fall cleanup, tie blankets and more! Project sign-up will be available until Sept. 11. Visit [www.unitedwayhelps.org](http://www.unitedwayhelps.org) to volunteer today. Contact Mary Krippner, United Way director of volunteer engagement, at 320-223-7991.

### CentraCare Plaza seeks volunteers

Volunteers enhance the patient experience by transporting patients to exam rooms, answering phone calls and maintaining a clean and tidy waiting lounge. Volunteers assist staff with prepping exam rooms, stocking supplies, delivering items within the Plaza, assembling patient charts and other miscellaneous tasks. Volunteer assistance is needed from 7-11 a.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays. CentraCare volunteers receive complimentary meals and snacks while volunteering. Make a difference in people's lives by becoming a CentraCare volunteer today! Visit [www.centracare.com/volunteer](http://www.centracare.com/volunteer) to learn more about their program and complete an application.

### Catholic Charities needs food shelf distribution aide

Catholic Charities Emergency Services needs Food Shelf Distribution Aide volunteers, who will help clients within the food shelf on distribution days. Job requires lifting and reaching, working on your feet. Must be able to stand for long amounts of time and be able to lift at least 40 pounds. Please note that clients are being allowed in the building in limited numbers and by appointment only. Volunteers will have contact with clients. All Covid restrictions will be in place. Contact Annie, Catholic Charities Volunteer Coordinator, at 320-229-4590 or [Annie.Henriksen@ccstcloud.org](mailto:Annie.Henriksen@ccstcloud.org).



contributed photo

**Shayne B., a member of Girl Scout Troop 101, paints a cabinet to use as a free little food pantry. Other troop members include the following: Abigail W., Aviana L., Claire L., Evangeline I., Kaylee O., Nellie B., Maggie H. and Norah F.**

## Sartell plans for parks supervisor, joint parks department

by **Dennis Dalman**  
[news@thenewsleaders.com](mailto:news@thenewsleaders.com)

It's hard to believe that with 29 parks, Sartell has never had a parks department or parks supervisor. But that may change soon.

In the near future, Sartell plans to hire a parks supervisor and create a parks department that would be a close partnership between the city and the school district.

The Sartell Planning Commission recommended those steps to the city council recently, and Sartell City Administrator Anna Gruber outlined the plans at the Aug. 23 council meeting.

In past years, parks' management and maintenance was done by volunteers, neighborhood associations, athletic groups and the Sartell Public Works Department.

The Sartell Parks Department

## Local Girl Scout troop starts free food pantry

by **Leanne Loy**  
[editor@thenewsleaders.com](mailto:editor@thenewsleaders.com)

Troop 101 Girl Scouts started a free food pantry in Sartell on Aug. 31. The troop along with their guides have set up a free community pantry at Riverside Evangelical Church at 405 Riverside Ave. N.

"This project has been in the works since February of 2020," said Angela Burnett, one of the moms and troop leaders, "right before covid hit the community and we went to all online scouting activities."

The Pantry works the same way free little libraries do: Take what you need, leave what you can. The troop will be regularly checking and stocking the pantry in partnership with Riverside

Evangelical Church and Celebration Lutheran Church's CLC Free Community Store. The goal is for the community to partner with the scouts to assist with stocking the pantry.

The majority of the building materials (wood and shingles) were donated by Simonson Lumber and additional supplies needed for the build were provided by members of Troop 101.

It's the little things like this (which end up being the big things) that make all the difference to those in need.

If the pandemic has taught us anything, it's that coming together and helping your community out is more important than some may have realized in the past. So stop by and donate what you can.

## Students outperform state averages on recent tests

by **Mike Knaak**  
[news@thenewsleaders.com](mailto:news@thenewsleaders.com)

Sartell-St. Stephen school district students outperformed the state average for all grade levels and tests, according to results of the latest statewide tests released Aug. 27.

The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments measure reading and mathematics achievement for grades three through eight and high school. Science tests measure proficiency for grades five and eight and high school students.

Students took the tests in late April and early May. No tests were administered in 2020 as

schools moved to remote and hybrid learning plans at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Here are the scores showing the percent of students meeting or exceeding standards:

Reading	Sartell-St. Stephen	State
3rd grade	62.0	48.5
4th grade	62.0	49.3
5th grade	68.8	59.4
6th grade	65.3	55.0
7th grade	68.8	48.3
8th grade	67.2	49.7
High school	62.2	58.3

Tests • page 3



photo by Carolyn Bertsch

**Enjoying the waning days of summer**  
The Schelinger family, of Sartell, celebrates a first birthday at the Celebration neighborhood pool Aug. 31. They are (left to right) Jenn; Trevor, 4; Clara, 6, and Nathan, who just turned 1.



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# Humane Society to host 'Mardi Paws'

by Dennis Dalman  
[news@thenewsleaders.com](mailto:news@thenewsleaders.com)

This fall, on Sept. 11, the Tri-County Humane Society's annual companion walk, dubbed "Mardi Paws" this year, will take place in person, in person.

Last year, the major fundraiser had to be online "virtual" due to the virus pandemic.

Not this time! Starting as early as 8 a.m., people and

their beloved pets will gather at Wilson Park along the Mississippi River in east St. Cloud. There they can enjoy food, socializing, games for people and pets, kiddie activities and more.

At 10 a.m., the 1k walk and the 5k walk will begin, led by the Benton County Mounted Patrol. After the walks, pets and people can return to the park and hang around until 1 p.m. to enjoy more food and fun.

People who can't attend the



contributed photos

**Vicki Davis, executive director of the Tri-County Humane Society**

event can still enjoy it or contribute to it because "Mardi Paws" will be live on Facebook.

Typically, every year, about 500 people and 50 pets (mostly dogs) take the fundraising walks. Each year the walk has a theme, such as "Woofstock" walk (for Woodstock the famous music festival). This year's "Mardi Paws" is a pun on "Mardi Gras," the annual festival in New Orleans, which is French for "Fat Tuesday." Many participants in Mardi Paws will sport wild or whimsical costumes just as Mardi Gras celebrants do. Some pets, too, will wear fun costumes.

Participants hope to raise \$55,000 for the humane society during the event.

For a fundraising walker's form or other ways to help or to contribute funds, visit the following website: [tri-county-humane-society.org/walk](http://tri-county-humane-society.org/walk).



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Celebration Lutheran

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### FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Join us in person or online!**

(beginning Sept. 12)

Sundays: 8 a.m. Worship

Sundays: 10:30 a.m. Worship

Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m. Worship

### Christian Education

(beginning Sept. 12)

SUNDAYS 9:15 a.m.

- Sunday JAM (Jesus and Me) 3 yrs-K
- Adult Education Hour

### WEDNESDAYS

- JAMZone & GodZone (1-5) 5:30 p.m.
- Youth Discipleship Training (6-9) 7:15 p.m.

### JOIN US FOR OUR FALL KICKOFF CELEBRATION

Sunday, Sept. 12

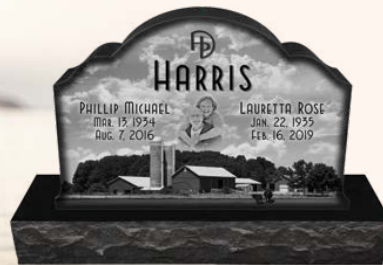
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## Parks

from front page

gramming.

Council member Alex Lewandowski praised background work done by city administrator Gruber and Mayor Ryan Fitzthum for making the park-department/supervisor concepts possible.

"It's a good idea," said council member Jeff Kolb. "A great opportunity."

Tim Elness also praised the plan.

"We can share lots of amenities with the schools, and we can combine community events with schools too," he said. "I think it's great."

Sartell-St. Stephen • St. Joseph

Reaching Everybody!  
**Newsleaders**

### Newsstands

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Holiday - Riverside  
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Little Dukes - Pinecone

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The Newsleaders office  
Sartell City Hall  
Sartell Community Center  
School District Offices  
Speedway  
Walgreens

[www.thenewsleaders.com](http://www.thenewsleaders.com)

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Newsleader staff members have the responsibility to report news fairly and accurately and are accountable to the public. Readers who feel we've fallen short of these standards are urged to call the Newsleader office at 320-363-7741. If matters cannot be resolved locally, readers are encouraged to take complaints to the Minnesota News Council, an independent agency designed to improve relationships between the public and the media and resolve conflicts. The council office may be reached at 612-341-9357.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to ST. JOSEPH NEWSLEADER, 1622 11th Ave SE, St. Cloud, MN 56304.



## Blotter

*If you have a tip concerning a crime, call the Sartell Police Department at 320-251-8186 or Tri-County Crime Stoppers at 320-255-1301, or access its tip site at [tricitycrimestoppers.org](http://tricitycrimestoppers.org). Crime Stoppers offers rewards up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for a crime.*

### Aug. 10

9:31 p.m. Theft. Seventh Street N. An officer was requested to respond to a complaint of personal items being stolen from their load of laundry in a common area in an apartment building. The complainant reported she and her daughter’s laundry had been gone through and certain items had been taken out of the laundry, while others remained in the dryer. She also explained they were out about \$60-70 worth of items. There are no cameras in the building, but the exterior doors are secured, so it was most likely someone who lives in the building. The complainant was going to speak to management about installing cameras.

### Aug. 11

1:52 p.m. Business assist. C.R. 120. Business assist. An officer was requested to assist the business with getting an RV removed from their property, and the owner was not cooperating. When the officer arrived on scene, the owner of the RV started swearing at them. The business requested All Care Towing to remove the RV. The owner told the officer he was sick, trying to fix his RV and had been there over a week. The officer told the owner to leave, or the RV was being hooked up to be towed away. Before All Care could hook up to the RV, the owner started the RV up. The owner was advised not to come back, or he would be arrested for trespassing. The owner then drove the RV off the lot.

### Aug. 12

12:23 a.m. Agency assist. Bridge of Hope. An officer was requested to assist a Stearns County deputy while their K-9 was doing a sniff on the vehicle. The officer assisted with officer safety precautions and was shortly cleared after the K-9 was done doing their job.

### Aug. 13

4:40 p.m. Found property. Riverside Avenue S. An officer was requested to respond to the river just behind the Family Dollar store. When the officers arrived, they walked out on the rocks to the complainant. The complainant showed the officers they had found a long gun. The officer retrieved the bottom half of a shotgun. Officers attempted to find serial numbers on the part but were unable to find any legible enough to read.

### Aug. 14

6:56 a.m. Alarm. Second Street S. Dispatch informed Sartell officers of a building alarm at a business. When the officer arrived and started checking doors it was found all exterior doors were secured. As the officer came around the back, he was met by an employee who informed him they had entered the wrong code. Proper code was entered and silenced the alarm.

### Aug. 15

3:59 p.m. Traffic stop. CR 120. While an officer was doing routine patrol, they witnessed a male on a bicycle weaving in and out of traffic. The biker road toward the center line as the officer was passing and almost

hit the rear of the squad. The officer attempted to stop the bicyclist, but he would not stop. After a short pursuit with lights and sirens, the officer was able to get the bicyclist stopped. The male immediately started yelling at the officer and would not follow commands given by the officer. The officer requested assistance and a Waite Park police officer arrived on scene shortly afterward. While trying to take the male into custody a struggle occurred, and the male continued to be uncooperative. St. Cloud Police Department arrived for more backup. The male was placed into a WRAP restraint for his and officers’ safety. The male was taken to the Stearns County Jail and booked on multiple charges.

### Aug. 16

10:25 a.m. Disorderly .Riverside Avenue S. Officers were dispatched to a screaming shirtless male in their bathroom. When the officers arrived on scene, they knew the male from previous calls. The officers were informed the male had been sprayed with bear mace by an unknown male at a different location in the county. The officers requested Mayo Ambulance to respond and gave the male permission to keep washing the bear mace off his face and body. When Mayo Ambulance arrived, the male was transported to the St. Cloud Hospital.

### Aug. 17

9:41 a.m. Assault. First Avenue N. An officer was requested to respond to a business for an assault that had happened the night before. The complainant wanted to make sure law enforcement was made aware of a situation that had occurred on their property. The evening before, a customer was exiting the store and a hotdog was thrown at them. The complainant was able to give the officer a description of the vehicle but no license plate. The incident had been reported the night before.

### Aug. 18

2:56 p.m. Agency assist. River

Oaks Lane. A Sartell officer was requested to assist a Stearns County Deputy in serving an eviction notice. The property owner and the inhabitants were given 24-hour notice to leave the property. They were informed the county would be boarding up windows and doors at that time. If they were still on the property, they would be removed or arrested.

### Aug. 19

4 p.m. Stolen vehicle. Roberts Road. An officer was dispatched to a stolen vehicle complaint at an apartment parking lot. The complainant stated he still had the keys, and the doors were locked on the vehicle. The complainant showed the officer where the vehicle had been parked. The officer noticed the vehicle had been dragged out of the parking spot as there was rubber left on the tar. The officer responded to the management office where he was able to review video. At approximately 9:32 a.m., a white tow truck came into the lot and towed the vehicle away. The cameras captured the name of the tow company as AWR Enterprises. The officer called the company that was out of Otsego, Minn. The company said they were hired to repo the vehicle and that if the owner wanted their personal items back to give them a call but to get the vehicle back, they would need to speak to their bank.

### Aug. 20

5:41 p.m. Domestic. Sunset Avenue. While an officer was responding to another call, he was flagged down by a male who stated his girlfriend’s mother was assaulted by her boyfriend. The officer spoke to the girlfriend of the man, and she told the officer that her mother had been slapped and choked by her boyfriend who had since left. The officer contacted the victim, and she told the officer she wasn’t speaking to him and yelled at her daughter for saying anything. The officer told them to please call if they needed to report anything in the future.

## People

**Seven Sartell students** were recently awarded St. Cloud State University Huskies Scholarships. They were among 1,012 SCSU students with scholarships totaling more than \$1.29 million for the 2021-2022 academic year so far. Scholarship applications for the 2022-2023 round of Huskies Scholarships opens in January for current and incoming St. Cloud State University students.

The 2021-2022 awardees include these Sartell area resident scholarship recipients: **Abbigail Doeden**, \$1,000 Strive Thrive Succeed Scholarship for the fall 2021/spring 2022 semesters; **Matthew Larson**, \$2,000 James W. Miller Family Scholarship for the fall 2021/spring 2022 semesters; **Anna Lehto**, \$1,500 Philip Halenbeck Scholarship for the fall 2021/spring 2022 semesters; **Katherine Ronyak**, \$1,000 Linda MacLeod Scholarship for the fall 2021/spring 2022 semesters; **Morgan Short**, \$2,500 Mary Beth Wedum Scholarship for the fall 2021/spring 2022 semesters and the \$1,500 Accounting Scholarship for the fall 2020 semester; **Rachel Taszarek**, \$1,500 Philip Halenbeck Scholarship for the fall 2021/spring 2022 semesters; and **Mariah Wentland**, \$1,000 Park Industries Endowed Scholarship for the fall 2021/spring 2022 semesters.

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## Tests

### from front page

Math	Sartell-St. Stephen	State
3rd grade	72.3	57.1
4th grade	66.8	53.8
5th grade	56.2	41.1
6th grade	55.3	37.2
7th grade	61.6	37.4
8th grade	68.4	39.8
High school	52.9	41.1
Science	Sartell-St. Stephen	State
5th grade	61.5	47.9
8th grade	42.1	33.8
High school	68.6	48.3

“We have a tradition of excellence in our school district and seeing our students continue to perform above state averages, despite all the Covid-19 challenges, is a point of pride,” said Superintendent Jeff Ridlehoover in a statement. “These results provide a snapshot of our student achievement and an opportunity for us to review our instructional practices to ensure we are aligned to our Minnesota State Standards.”

Statewide results show de-

### Correction

The name of the new veterinarian who will soon work at the Pine Cone Pet Hospital is Dr. Mark Johnson (not “Anderson,” as reported in a story in the Aug. 6 Sartell Newsleader.) We regret the error and offer our apologies to Dr. Mark Johnson.

David K as Roy O.

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In **March of 2022** over Spring Break, I will be leading a trip to **Canada to visit Montreal and Quebec.** To learn more about this proposed trip, please visit the following website: [www.efast.com/2398278ES](http://www.efast.com/2398278ES)

In **May and June of 2022**, I will be leading a trip to **Israel** which includes a 4 day stay behind so that we can go to visit **Petra**. This trip is tentatively scheduled from May 30 to June 12, 2022. To learn more about this trip, I would encourage you to visit the following website: [www.explorica.com/Knickerbocker-5596](http://www.explorica.com/Knickerbocker-5596)

In **July of 2022**, I will be leading a tour to **Iceland**. It is tentatively been re-scheduled to occur July 15 to July 23, 2021. To learn more about this proposed trip, please visit the following website: <http://www.explorica.com/Knickerbocker-2630>

In **May of 2023**, I will be leading a tour to **Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris and London**. This trip is tentatively scheduled from May 15 to May 23, 2023. To learn more about this purposed trip, please visit the following website: [www.explorica.com/Knickerbocker-9997](http://www.explorica.com/Knickerbocker-9997)

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at: 612-221-9720 or by email at: [vknicker@yahoo.com](mailto:vknicker@yahoo.com)





# SABRES ACTIVITY SCHEDULE 2021



10/18/21	7 p.m.	Fall Band, Choir & Orchestra Concert	High School Performing Arts Center
10/28/21	7 p.m.	Fall Play: Game of Tiaras	High School Performing Arts Center
10/29/21	7 p.m.	Fall Play: Game of Tiaras	High School Performing Arts Center
10/30/21	2 & 7 p.m.	Fall Play: Game of Tiaras	High School Performing Arts Center
11/15/21	7 p.m.	Sartell Theatre Cabaret	High School Performing Arts Center
12/6/21	7:30 p.m.	Winter Orchestra Concert	High School Performing Arts Center
12/13/21	7:30 p.m.	Winter Choir Concert	High School Performing Arts Center
12/20/21	7:30 p.m.	Winter Band Concert	High School Performing Arts Center
1/18/21	7 p.m.	One Act Play Preview: The Murder of Lidice	High School Performing Arts Center
1/24/21	7 p.m.	Jazz Swing Dance	High School Black Box
1/28/21	7 p.m.	One Act Play: The Murder of Lidice	High School Performing Arts Center
2/28/21	7 p.m.	Sabre Showcase	High School Performing Arts Center
3/7/21	7:30 p.m.	Spring Orchestra Concert	High School Performing Arts Center
3/14/21	7:30 p.m.	Spring Choir Concert	High School Performing Arts Center
3/21/21	7:30 p.m.	Spring Band Concert	High School Performing Arts Center
4/28/21	7 p.m.	Spring Play: Tuck Everlasting	High School Performing Arts Center
4/29/21	7 p.m.	Spring Play: Tuck Everlasting	High School Performing Arts Center
4/30/21	2 & 7 p.m.	Spring Play: Tuck Everlasting	High School Performing Arts Center
5/2/21	7 p.m.	Jazz Extravaganza	High School Performing Arts Center
5/9/21	7:30 p.m.	Spring Orchestra Concert	High School Performing Arts Center
5/16/21	7:30 p.m.	Spring Band Concert	High School Performing Arts Center
5/23/21	7:30 p.m.	Spring Choir Concert	High School Performing Arts Center

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# Is Eye Health Genetic?

Did you know that eye diseases are related to genetic factors within the family?

According to the Cleveland Clinic, more than 60% of blindness cases among infants are caused by inherited visual illnesses. More than 40% of patients with forms of strabismus have a hereditary history of the disease.

If you're a parent who has vision problems, it is crucial to schedule your child for regular eye exams. Early detection helps experts diagnose the medical issue and develop a treatment plan that may lessen the symptoms. Learn more about common diseases that affect our vision that are primarily due to genetics.

**STRABISMUS AND AMBLYOPIA**

Strabismus, or more commonly known as crossed eyes, is most common in children and affects between 2-4% of America's population, according to the Boston Children's Hospital. A diagnosis of the condition can happen at birth or the issue can develop over time. In addition to a formation due to genetics, the problem may occur after an accident or other health problems.

A severe consequence of leaving strabismus untreated is the development of amblyopia, or lazy eye. The situation can be aggravated and leads to long-term damage



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when vision doesn't normally form during childhood due to the eyes being unaligned.

**MYOPIA AND HYPEROPIA**

The organization Prevent Blindness says refractive errors occur if the eye cannot focus light correctly on the retina. Two of the most common types of these issues

include:

- **Myopia.** Also known as nearsightedness, the eyeball is too long for the eye's standard focusing power. It results in a blurry view of images that are far away.
- **Hyperopia.** Commonly called farsightedness, the eyeball is too short to maximize focus, meaning distant items

are visible while viewing nearby images is challenging.

Corrective treatments for refractive errors usually include eyeglasses, contacts or surgery.

**ASTIGMATISM**

Another vision problem that is related to genetics is astigmatism. It develops

when the cornea of the eye has an irregular shape, often leading to blurry sight. Harvard Health states that other symptoms include double vision, headaches from eye strain and squinting. While the condition is not preventable, treatments like glasses or LASIK surgery can cure the issue.



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# Opinion

## Our View

### Don't let misinformation thwart Covid-19 vaccination

The good news is the Minnesota Department of Health recently released findings that Covid-19 vaccinations have increased steadily during the past two weeks throughout the state, a surge that hadn't been seen since the first few months of the vaccine availability this past spring. Sources seem to agree this is most likely due to fear of the second more contagious wave, the Delta variant among others.

But as a state, Minnesota, which typically prides itself in helping lead the nation in everything from healthcare to education to the economy, is only ranked 16th according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the fight to vaccinate all against the coronavirus. And the main culprits are residents in outlying counties who, either due to limited availability of the vaccines or misinformation about their use, are slow in reacting. Stearns County is among 14 of the 87 counties in the state with 55 percent or fewer vaccinated.

One's first thought is those who don't, or won't, get their inoculation, well, survival of the fittest.

But upon a closer look, here's the breakdown. The CDC and the MDH do not recommend the vaccine for children 12 and under. Now we're back to school in person starting Tuesday, which means close quarters for all involved. Even though Sartell-St. Stephen and St. Cloud school districts are requiring all students and staff wear masks while in attendance, it just takes one exposure to sweep through an entire classroom, grade or school.

The facts are these:

- Nearly all Covid-19 deaths, since the vaccines have been available, are among those who *were not* vaccinated.
- There is a small chance of getting Covid-19 after vaccination, but the shot does reduce a person's chance of being hospitalized and in turn reduces the chance of death.
- Less than 0.004 percent of fully vaccinated persons have been hospitalized due to adverse reactions from the vaccine; and less than 0.001 percent died.

This is not a political game nor an instance of government control. It's a public health crises, if not a disaster.

We, as adults, need to protect the most vulnerable and the young by sucking it up and getting vaccinated. Delta Air Lines recently implemented a policy to raise health insurance premiums for unvaccinated employees to cover higher Covid costs. Our hope is more employers follow suit.

We salute all frontline workers – health care personnel, first responders, delivery drivers, teachers, grocery store employees, public transportation, factory workers and more – who through their bravery have kept our economy going. We consider them heroes.

Now it's your turn. Be a hero. Get vaccinated.

### Letters policy

Letters to the editor may be sent to news@thenewsleaders.com or mailed to 1622 11th Ave. S.E., St. Cloud, MN 56304. Deadline is noon Monday. Please include your full name for publication (and address and phone number for verification only.) Letters must be 350 words or less. We reserve the right to edit for space or to not publish.

## Small-business-advertising help would boost local economies

A little-noticed initiative by Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-WA, Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-MN, and five other senators would boost local jobs, accelerate sales and improve economies. The Local Journalism Sustainability Act, S. 2434, is designed to help local news media support their newsgathering missions. Klobuchar often sponsors measures aimed at supporting journalism.

One provision goes far beyond offering aid to community newspapers, local news websites and other newsgatherers. It would help small businesses to dig out of the economic doldrums by supporting their advertising costs in local news outlets, which in turn will help publishers and broadcasters to hire journalists.

This provision would permit small businesses to claim a tax credit for a portion of their advertising purchases up to \$5,000 a year. Credits would remain, but in declining amounts, for five years.

The legislation, originally introduced in similar form by Reps. Ann Kirkpatrick, D-AZ, and Dan Newhouse, R-WA, would also help subscribers by providing them with a refundable tax credit up to \$250 a

**Brett  
Wesner**

*Guest Writer*

year. It provides financial support for hiring as well, assisting news organizations with journalists' salaries. It is the advertising tax credit that is the unsung hero of this legislation. Like a pebble tossed into the pond of local economies, it will show the ripple effect of benefits in local jobs, enhanced spending, revenues to run local governments and a boost to get American small businesses back in the game after a very tough couple of years.

Every dollar of advertising spending generates \$8.77 in sales, according to a 2010 study by IHS Global Insight, a firm that periodically measures advertising's impact on economies. Advertising is directly responsible for about 20 percent of the American economy by directly generating jobs in media sales, creation of materials and collateral work but it does far more by juicing activity in other businesses.

No surprise to anyone on Main

Street: after the 2008 recession small businesses cut way back on their advertising campaigns, dropping from their normal 3-5 percent annual increases to a stunning 6 percent cut in 2009. It is too soon to know what the COVID-19 pandemic has done to this spending, but it would be no great revelation to learn that the cuts equaled or exceeded those following the Great Recession. Expense cuts are what businesses do to stay afloat.

But when they are ready to climb back into the cockpit for a new take-off, the spending needs to accelerate rapidly. Cash-strapped businesses may be in no position to fuel their journey though. That is why a little boost in the form of the Cantwell tax credit would be so timely. If the economy behaves as it usually does after economic retraction, the new spending will generate more sales and the public coffers will refill. The bill's benefits end after five years but the growth it generates will pay off for decades.

*Wesner is chair of the National Newspaper Association, a community newspaper organization and president of Wesner Publications, Cordell, Oklahoma.*

## Marian, your timer doesn't work anymore

Marian Iverson, the timer you bought me so long ago didn't work – not this time.

On a fall night 36 years ago, I had a hankering for a pumpkin pie, so I whipped one up, popped it in the oven, then started to read. At that time, I was living in an apartment above the Broadway Floral shop in downtown Alexandria. I kept checking, checking on that pie, but for some reason the jiggly-wiggly thing wouldn't "set."

Forgetting all about it, I crawled in bed, fell asleep.

In the morning, sunshine blazed through my bedroom window. Beautiful warm morning! Breezes floating through the screens. I yawned, stretched, got out of bed, ready to get dressed and walk to the news office just two blocks away.

Suddenly, I smelled something burning. The cooks must be burning their caramel rolls, I thought, thinking of the Traveler's Inn café just a few doors down main street.

Oh no! My pumpkin pie!

Dropping my toothbrush, I hurried to the kitchen, opened the oven. There it was, my poor pie. After nine hours, it wasn't jiggly anymore. It had finally "set" and I do mean "set." It was shiny black, pitch black, hard as a rock, like a black ceramic ashtray.

Holding the hot wannabe pie, I used a baker's mitt to bring it to work.

"Pie anybody?" I asked in the front office.

"WHAT is that?" wide-eyed receptionist Nancy asked.

"Whadya think it is? It's a pumpkin pie."

**Dennis  
Dalman**

*Reporter*



Gasping, then laughing, she almost shouted, "You must have over-baked it!"

"Well, duh!, I guess," I told her. "By about nine hours."

Hearing the verbal commotion, the ever-curious news staff hurried to the front.

"What in the heck is that?!" reporter Hollan asked.

"It's a pie."

"Could-a fooled me," he said, chuckling. "Did YOU bake that?"

"No, I overbaked it."

Helen the bookkeeper threw some loose change from the cash register onto the pie.

"Burnt offerings," she said, to everyone's side-splitting merriment.

Next day, the Society Section Editor Marian Iverson sauntered over to my work desk and handed me a gift bag.

"What is it?" I asked.

"Open it and see," Marian said. "You're going to need it!"

"It" was one of those white-plastic wind-up timers, Lux brand. I laughed somewhat sheepishly.

With a stern school-teacher expression on her face, she commanded, "Next time you try to bake a pie, use it!"

Never lived it down. Every year, before our company potluck get-togeth-

ers, I'd ask, "What should I bring?" Never failed that one of my co-workers would pipe up: "Bring anything. Just NOT a pumpkin pie."

Oh Marian, thank you. I used that timer hundreds of times during all those years, and it never failed me. Until – well, until the other night when I whipped up a batch of my morning-toast bread, two loaves, as I do every 10 days. After the dough had risen in their pans, I popped them in the oven, set my trusty Marian Lux timer to 35 minutes, sat on the couch and began to watch TV news. Exhausted from the hideous heat that day, I fell asleep.

Early in the still-dark morning, I woke up.

What's burning?

Oh, no, my bread! I rushed to the oven; I don't know why I rushed. What's a few seconds going to matter to bread that's been baking for seven hours?

I opened the oven. Oh, what a sorry sight. Two bleak, black loaves – just as black as that long-ago pumpkin pie, except dull black, not shiny. It would have required a small chain saw to slice it.

I don't know if that timer failed me this time, or I failed it. But if only Marian were still among us (she passed on some years ago), I'd love to tell her, "Marian, that timer you gave me doesn't work anymore."

And Marian, with her pointed-but-gentle wit, would reply, choking back a giggle: "Dennis, I know what's not working anymore. And it's not that timer!"

**Have an opinion? Share it: news@thenewsleaders.com**



## Calendar

Is your event listed? Send your information to: Newsleader Calendar, 1622 11th Ave. SE., St. Cloud, MN 56304., e-mail it to [news@thenewsleaders.com](mailto:news@thenewsleaders.com). Most events are listed at no cost. Those events are typically free or of minimal charge for people to attend. Some events, which have paid advertising in the Newsleaders, are also listed in the calendar and may charge more.

### Friday, Sept. 3

**“Redistricting Locally: St. Cloud and Stearns County”** Zoom meeting, 1-3 p.m. Learn more about the process of redistricting. Visit [www.lwvsc.org](http://www.lwvsc.org) for more information.

### Monday, Sept. 6

**St. Stephen Church Festival**, Deadline for purchasing tickets via email is Aug. 25. Return order form to Church of St. Stephen, 103 Central Ave. S, St. Stephen. Thousands of dollars in cash prizes!

**Sartell Lions Club**, 6:30 p.m., contact Stewart Giffin at 651-261-4272 regarding meeting details.

### Wednesday, Sept. 8

**Group Talks Dirt:** Master Gardeners Discuss New Gardens, Pollinators, 9 a.m. The Breakfast Club presents Master Gardeners with the University of Minnesota Extension Office of Stearns County. Stearns History Museum, 235 33rd Ave. S., St. Cloud. Call the museum at 320-253-8424 to reserve your spot.

**St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce**, 11:30 a.m., visit [stjoseph-chamber@gmail.com](mailto:stjoseph-chamber@gmail.com) to register.

### Thursday, Sept. 9

**Coffee and Conversation**, a senior discussion group, 9 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S. Pre-register to attend in-person, call Ann at 320-258-7324.

**Sartell-Sauk Rapids Moms Club monthly social**, 10-11 a.m.

**CRAFT-VENDOR SALES  
TS MESSAGES**

Homemade soaps, acc-sewn-crochet items, jewelry, pet beds, bingo bags, snack jars

**7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11**  
**7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 12**

INSIDE Old Village Hall Building  
30 Main St. E., Rice

Location varies each month. Contact Tanya at [ssrmoms@gmail.com](mailto:ssrmoms@gmail.com) for questions or to join the group.

**Free Nitrate Water Testing**, 2-7 p.m. Collect a water sample from your kitchen faucet on Sept. 9. Keep sample cool and deliver to St. Joseph Township Hall. Discuss results with a water expert. Visit [www.StearnsCountySWCD.net/nitrate](http://www.StearnsCountySWCD.net/nitrate). 935 Collegeville Ave. S., St. Joseph.

**Rainbow Support Evening**, 7-9 p.m. Parents/allies/friends and GLBTQ+ persons gather to pray, share stories and support each other. Confidentiality is maintained. Free-will offering accepted. Visit <https://sbm.osb.org/event/rainbow-support-evening/> to register.

### Saturday, Sept. 11

**Craft-Vendor Sales**, 7:30-5 p.m., inside the old village hall building, 30 Main St. E., Rice.

### Sunday, Sept. 12

**Craft-Vendor Sales**, 7:30-3 p.m., inside the old village hall building, 30 Main St. E., Rice.

### Monday, Sept. 13

**Fare For All**, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Salem Lutheran Church, 90 Riverside Dr. SE, St. Cloud.

**Sartell City Council**, 6 p.m., City Hall, 125 Pinecone Road N.

### Tuesday, Sept. 14

**Sartell Chamber of Commerce**, 11:30 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S., Sartell.

### Thursday, Sept. 16


**Coffee and Conversation**, a senior discussion group, 9 a.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S. Pre-register to attend in-person, call Ann at 320-258-7324.

**Sartell American Legion**, open to all veterans young and old, 6 p.m., Sartell Community Center, 850 19th St. S, Sartell.



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## Peter D. Honer Estate Auction Saturday Sept. 11 • 10:00 A.M. 127 Eighth Ave. SE St. Joseph

Directions: Co. Rd. 75 St. Joseph, south on Eighth, east on Minnesota Street, south on Ninth, east on Able Street, south on Eighth

**ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES:** 25-gal. Red Wing crocks, wood duck decoys, oil drip lamp, carnival glass, beer steins, vintage Barbie & Ken dolls, deer antlers, bear head, radios, Griswold cast iron pan, oil lamps, trunk, nail keg, barn lantern, galvanized wash tub, wash board, enamelware, cast iron two-burner stove, figurines, meat saws, tin Coleman cooler, green canning jars.

**MUSICAL:** Two triple pearl Queen concertinas, quad Arnold concertina, Latolska & Lakeside accordions, Midget Grand beginners accordion, Hohner three-row button accordion, 1890 button accordion, tube type speakers, Washburn electric amplifier.

**HOUSEHOLD:** Framed prints & oil paintings, glassware, brass pitcher, knife block, cups & saucers, collector plates, heaters, air purifiers, VHS movies & cabinet, sewing machines, quilting fabric & material, cookbooks, jewelry & rosaries, towels & linens, paint & craft supplies, books, vacuums, cookware, electronics, train pictures, Halloween blow molds, holiday décor, 33 LP records, ribbon, buttons, coolers, hunting clothes & boots, Tupperware, canning jars, wind chimes, drying rack.

**OUTDOOR & TOOLS:** '99 Polaris Magnum 500 ATV (360 miles), Shopsmith, 8” jointer planer, vice, toolbox & tools, halogen lights, Dremel scroll saw, DeWalt belt sander, Makita battery tool set, Brad nail gun, bench top drill press, Pro-Tech table saw, shop vacuum, metal shop shelves, 110 V air compressor, wax buffer polisher, woodworking tools, touter & bits, rough sawn lumber, organizers, electrical cords, hardware, John Deere Sabre 42” mower & bagger, Brute self-propelled mower, yard & garden tools, seeder spreader, garden hoses, lawn tractor sprinklers, Craftsman chain saw, aluminum extension ladder, Honda mini tiller, roof rake, dip nets, Murray 8/27 snow blower, gas cans, Schwinn bicycle, bow & arrows, yard ornaments, bird feeders, shepard hooks, wheelbarrow, propane tank, fishing poles.

**FURNITURE:** wicker planter, bedroom set, hospital bed, refrigerator, bar stools, step back china hutch, dining table & press back chairs, recliner, loveseat, plant stand, gun cabinet, curio cabinet, wood shelves, oak dresser, East Lake parlor table, pine dresser, cedar chests, electric organ, cast iron bed, fern stand, end tables, French provincial bedroom set, exercise bike, poly picnic table, Maytag wringer washer, chest & upright freezers.

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*Please contact Janel at 320.241.5173 or [Janel.Heinen@lssmn.org](mailto:Janel.Heinen@lssmn.org) for more information and to make an impact in your community!!*



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## PERSONAL FINANCE | THE PROFESSIONALS

# Hiring a Financial Pro

If you find you need help managing your day-to-day financial tasks, it might be time to hire a pro.

Here is a breakdown of each type of financial professional who can help with routine financial matters, and when to hire each.

## BOOKKEEPER

If you are hiring a professional to manage your personal finances, you'll most likely turn to a bookkeeper. They provide services such as budgeting, paying bills, balancing your checkbook, looking over credit card statements, analyzing your spending.

Bookkeepers can be certified by the American Institute of Professional Bookkeepers or complete online training to be certified by QuickBooks.

Expect to pay around \$20 per hour for a bookkeeper's services, according to Investopedia.

## ACCOUNTANT

An accountant is responsible for keeping, preparing and examining financial records.

TheBalance.com recommends hiring an accountant if you own your own business, make more than \$200,00 per year, plan to leave an inheritance to your children, own rental properties or anticipate receiving a large capital gain.

Accountants typically have college degrees in accounting

and can handle bookkeeping tasks, tax preparation and filing of required financial forms. Expect to pay around \$35 per hour, according to Investopedia.

A certified public accountant, or CPA, often has a master's degree and is certified by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. You probably only need a CPA if you own a business. Rates

will be higher for a CPA, at \$50 and up, says Investopedia.

## FINANCIAL PLANNER

A financial planner's job is to help you reach your financial goals. If you want advice on budgeting, paying down debt, investing or other financial matters, hire a financial planner to help you set your course.

You might pay a flat fee or a

percentage of your assets for the planner's services, or she might be paid a commission based on the products or investments she sells you. Paying a flat fee is the best way to ensure your financial planner has only your best interests in mind and not her own bottom line.

## CHOOSING A PRO

No matter which kind of

professional you decide to hire, do your homework before making a decision. Ask friends and family for recommendations, and check with national professional associations. Do a Google search of your prospective pros, read reviews and check with your state's securities agency to see if the pro is involved in any administrative actions. Ask detailed questions about fees and commissions.

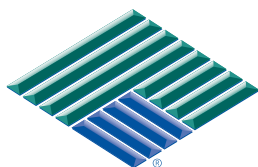


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